

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 05:42:11 1995  
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 02:59:07 -0600  
Message-Id: <199502230901.DAA07015@zoom.bga.com>  
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>  
Subject: Re: A Boatanchor Clock

As Jeffrey Herman said

>  
> I have dug out of the dumpster a Simplex classroom clock  
> that contains some electronics with a vacuum tube operating  
> a relay. The relay engages changes to the clock motor's  
> gearing. Right now the clock's minute hand is acting as  
> a second hand and the tube's filaments aren't glowing.  
>  
> I can recall my elementary school's classroom clocks would  
> occassionally chatter their relays and play 'catch up'  
> with the master clock located in the principal's office.  
>  
> Looking at this 'slave' clock I see no signal wiring other  
> than the 120VAC wires. Was the synchronizing signal to  
> the slave clocks send over the 120V lines?  
>

I am not familiar with the Simplex clock you describe, but "jump" clocks as you describe were quite common in my youth (WW II era). They were made to run on a doorbell circuit. A spring-powered pendulum clock was the master, and had a set of contacts on the wheel that turned at 1 RPM. At the minute, the contacts would close for one swing of the pendulum, generally about one second. These contacts generally operated a pilot relay that fed current to all the slave clock indicators. Operated on DC (#6 dry cells), they went click.....thunk operating a ratchet escapement in the indicator. Many of them had bell transformers installed in place of the dry cells, which made them go buzzzzzz--thunk rather loudly.

The origin of the design was in the late 19th century, for use with time-stamp clocks in factories. As you mention, they were provided with means---generally, just a doorbell button that would work the pilot relay---for manually setting the time ahead. The solenoids were quite slow to operate, so manual setting required a firm set of "dash" signals, otherwise the slaves would go out of synch. Manually resetting a slave was a pesty job, because the original installers generally put them in the most inconvenient spots possible.

--

\*\*\*\*\*  
Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com  
\*\*\*\*\*

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 04:46:52 1995  
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 02:10:16 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502230812.AA21858@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>  
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)  
Subject: A Boatanchor Clock (no joke!)

A Boatanchor Clock!

I have dug out of the dumpster a Simplex classroom clock that contains some electronics with a vacuum tube operating a relay. The relay engages changes to the clock motor's gearing. Right now the clock's minute hand is acting as a second hand and the tube's filaments aren't glowing.

I can recall my elementary school's classroom clocks would occassionally chatter their relays and play 'catch up' with the master clock located in the principal's office.

Looking at this 'slave' clock I see no signal wiring other than the 120VAC wires. Was the synchronizing signal to the slave clocks send over the 120V lines?

Jeff NH6IL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 00:53:35 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 22:04:46 -0600  
Message-Id: <fd3\_9502221018@satlink.oau.org>  
From: Russ.Leblanc%225@satlink.oau.org (Russ Leblanc)  
Subject: Re: Airborne antennas

Al> a kite. Please, no jokes. While we were messing around with the  
Al> kite, I started thinking that the kite would be a great way to get a  
Al> couple hundred feet  
Al> of antenna wire up in the air. We spooled out 500' in no time. Has  
Al> anyone tried this on a camping trip or for field day, etc.? What size  
Al> wire would you have to use? There must be some optimal size that  
Al> won't break due its own weight and yet be light enough not to drag the  
Al> kite down. Just some musings for  
Al> a Monday morning while I sip my coffee.

I thought of the same thing (using a kite), but I'd like instead to try using a small helium balloon instead as there would be less tension on the wire, and you don't need any wind.

Russ

.. this is your radio. THIS IS YOUR RADIO ON TUBES!  
--- Blue Wave/QWK v2.12  
--- FidoPCB v1.4 [ff232/a]  
--  
|Fidonet: Russ Leblanc 1:363/225  
|Internet: Russ.Leblanc%225@satlink.oau.org  
|  
| Standard disclaimer: The views of this user are strictly his own.  
| From C.F.Satlink +1-407-240-7781 (ANSI or Vt-100 \_required\_).

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Feb 22 12:41:00 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 09:02:36 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502221455.AA08044@uvs1.orl.mmc.com>  
From: padgett@tccslr.dnet.mmc.com (A. Padgett Peterson, P.E. Information Security)  
Subject: RE: Alexanderson Alternator/Sweden

Larry rites:  
>and uses a magnetic amplifier to control the rotational speed during  
>operation.

Mag amps represent a technology that was lost in this country around 1957 with the rush to solid state and the general loss of "L". Really excellent control mechanisms and can handle quite high power so long as you can tolerate the weight. Certain European countries kept up the development and were used quite extensively in control systems. I wonder what a lightweight mag amp based on some of the new ceramic magnets could do. Hmmmm.

Warmly,  
Padgett

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Feb 22 13:45:48 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 04:59:00 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502221053.AA15606@hamilton.lab1033.berlin.ptb.de>  
From: mul@lab1033.berlin.ptb.de (m.ulbrich)  
Subject: Berlin bottles

Hi there (Boatanchorites),

I've been listening to this list for several weeks now and I'm starting to wonder why it is mostly used by North American BA enthusiasts. I remember just a few non-US participants - in the first place a guy from Denmark (I think Rag is his name); some time ago there were a few postings from Greece, Japan and "Down Under" (.au).

It seems to me as if e-mail and Internet access are still a rare thing in the rest of the world and that people who have

it are too busy keeping pace with these "high-tech" computer technologies (and making money), that they have no time leaning back and watching the good old firebottles glow...

A little introduction regarding my person:

My name is Michael. I'm 35 and I can't remember exactly when I had my first \*contact\* with firebottles. Literally, it must have been sometimes in the early sixties, when my father, who owned a very small Radio/TV shop at that time, used to repair TV-sets on the kitchen table and I occasionally got \*zapped\* while poking around in the back of the live set in an unattended moment <:-0

At the age of thirteen, I started working at a local electronics component store after school. With a friend, we got into several homebrewing projects - at that time mostly transmitters in the FM broadcast band of the "one tube free running oscillator" type and, later, an all-tube oscilloscope based on a \*very\* cheap Russian surplus CRT, which went south (?? - died!) after a few hours of operating due to cathode-grid shortage. But we had seen a flickering baseline and some (distorted) signals from the vertical amplifier (:-)

Well, let me skip the following 20 years. Meanwhile, I graduated as an EE engineer and I'm working in a governmental institution called PTB (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, Institut Berlin) - I think the NIST is a comparable institution in the US. My professional task is working with computers in the broadest sense - from system management to applications programming. The only firebottles still glowing in our lab today are the CRT's of the computer displays ... mostly the phosphors and not the filaments ... but, that's even better than nothing.

It must have been because of this lack of warmth that a desire reappeared that had haunted me since my childhood days - the desire to own (and operate!!) a short wave receiver.

After a period of studying glossy advertisements (rice boxes - shudder :-) I came across a shop here in Berlin ( I think it's the only one of that kind) that sells electronic surplus gear and, besides that, a bunch of vintage components and \*tubes\* (new and used ones). It was the time short after the Berlin Wall had been torn down (91/92) and a lot of electronic stuff from former GDR (German Democratic Republic) and East Berlin floated around on the flea markets. So, the guy at this shop offered me a rig, that had been manufactured by "Funkwerk Koepenick", a member of the "Kombinat RFT" in former GDR.

A "Kombinat" was an agglomeration of nationalized businesses - some kind of socialistic newspeak.

The rig was a general coverage receiver (14kHz - 30 MHz) from the mid 60's, looking fine and with manual - a \*real\* BA.

It followed me home and kept me busy the next month's. My troubleshooting turned to success when I realized, that all the tuning capacitors and switches had been soaked with contact cleaner and after each cleaning step, it was a pleasure to watch the rig come back to life a little further.

Ok, that's enough for now (hope You don't mind the bandwidth); just to wave my hand and let You guy's know (mostly 'cross the Atlantic) that there is a glow-afficionado over in Berlin, Germany.

Any questions regarding communications receivers (past WWII - late 60's) from Germany (former BRD/GDR) appreciated.  
(Telefunken, Rhode&Schwarz, RFT, Siemens)

Greetings ... Michael

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 04:30:43 1995  
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 01:52:16 -0600  
Message-Id: <8A4043A.0004010F32.uuout@freddy.supernet.ab.ca>  
From: shaun.merrigan@freddy.supernet.ab.ca (SHAUN MERRIGAN)  
Subject: BERLIN BOTTLES

>>Any questions regarding communications receivers (past WWII -  
>>late 60's) from Germany (former BRD/GDR) appreciated.  
>>(Telefunken, Rhode&Schwarz, RFT, Siemens)

>>Greetings ... Michael

Michael:

I would love to see some specs/information about high-end Rhode&Shwartz, Telefunken military BA gear. I have only ever read one review of a piece of R&S gear, the EK-07-D/2. Perhaps you could bring the group up to speed on popular, high-performance European BA gear. How much former Eastern Bloc stuff is showing up on surplus store shelves?? Fascinating stuff, thanks.

Shaun P. Merrigan  
shaun.merrigan@freddy.supernet.ab.ca  
merrigan@nyquist.ee.ualberta.ca

2nd Year EE/University of Alberta  
"Resistance is Futile,  
Conductance is 1/Futile  
Susceptance is dangerous

Admittance is out of the question"

\* RM 1.3 01775 \* The boss is always right.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 02:34:45 1995  
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 00:02:15 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950223005547.19793A-100000@access3.digex.net>  
From: Tony Stalls <rstalls@access.digex.net>  
Subject: Cables with U-77/U's

Greetings from the world of Stealth!

For those of you with GRC-3 through GRC-8's or R-392's that use the U-77/U for audio connectors, I have two 6-1/2 foot cables with connectors attached that came from LS-166 speakers. It's wired as follows:

A >----> WHITE (field type radio audio)  
C >----> n/c  
D >----> n/c  
L >----> RED (vehicular radio audio)  
E >----> n/c  
F >----> n/c  
H >----> n/c  
J >----> n/c  
L >----> n/c  
K >----> n/c  
B >----> BLACK (common)

It could probably come in one of those small padded envelopes from the post office, so we're talking about stamps for shipping, so it comes free to the first two who have a radio that uses them and send me an e-mail. (If I get only one reply, then you get both of them!) Such a deal!!!

73,

Tony  
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:22:52 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 11:10:03 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502221710-AA11886@hpislwes.lvld.hp.com>  
From: Bill Standerfer <bills@hpislwes.lvld.hp.com>  
Subject: Fix It Yourself

I just read a great article in the 2/2/95 issue of EDN. It is about a guy who got hooked on repairing broken instruments and how that helped his design

process. He would be a great addition to the BA list (unless he's already here??). Give it a look if you've still got the issue around. If you don't take EDN, you'll have to find some engineer looking the other way and steal a copy.

Bill

Bill Standerfer	*	Hewlett-Packard Company
CFI-A, IA, ME	*	VXI Systems Division
bills@lvld.hp.com	*	Loveland, CO 80539
Baron N222AB - KF0DJ - Pikes Peak 253	*	303-679-2378

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:43:16 1995  
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 22:45:18 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502211825.AA04592@willow.sps.mot.com>  
From: zoom@willow.sps.mot.com (Chris Terwilliger)  
Subject: FS: RME 4350A

For sale, offers welcome:

RME (Electro-Voice) 4350A Communications Receiver (ca. 1957). 6 ham bands, 160-10 meters. Dual conversion, product detector and crystal calibrator. Works and is in good/excellent condition, no mods or holes. A few light scratches and chips around the edges. Face good, knobs and dial correct and good. Chassis is dusty, no corrosion. \$100 plus shipping.

Chris Terwilliger, AA7WD  
zoom@willow.sps.mot.com  
602-413-5362 (W)  
602-820-2584 (H)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:18:14 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 11:56:09 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950222105459.23741A-100000@thelair.zynet.com>  
From: johnb@thelair.zynet.com  
Subject: Glow, tubes, xrays

Greetings Firebottle collectors,

I was rereading a posting by Bobbi regarding glowing tubes, and was interested in trying to understand the real story regarding tube gear xray emission.

I've had several friends remark about my irradiating myself with my tube gear, but have passed it off without thought. However when I bought a lot (3-4000?) tubes as a lot, I did note several that came intact with their own lead/graphite shield, and a warning about emissions.

Im anything but an alarmist about such things, but what IS the

story regarding tube xray emission?

And Bobbi, how DO you make xray images with common household equipment?

transparently,  
/john wb5oau

John M. Brewer        wb5oau  
johnb@thelair.zynet.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 05:55:41 1995

Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 03:09:11 -0600

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9502230321.A15208-0100000@indy1>

From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indynet.indy.net>

Subject: Re: Glow, tubes, xrays

Hi, John & BAophiles!

On Wed, 22 Feb 1995 johnb@thelair.zynet.com wrote:

> [...] interested in trying to understand the real story regarding tube gear  
> xray emission.

You and me \*both!\* I was always given to understand that it took pretty healthy voltages to get really energetic X-rays, and the only situation in which that was encountered in gear one might have at home was in early color TVs, since the CRT couldn't very well live behind a steel cabinet and do any good. The big transmitting tubes \*do\* come with an X-ray warning (and a list of other awfuls), but it is of the "generic" CYA sort and since I've never found the film in the 'scope camera fogged when doing performance documentation with the Rack Of Instrumentation sitting right in front of the PA cavities, I haven't worried about it.

One way to check would be to compare single-sheet B&W Polaroid film, one taped to the front of the suspected source for several minutes or longer and the other sitting at the far end of the house for the same time. You start the developing process with a rubber roller of the sort used by block printers to apply ink (a burin, I think it's called)--a photo shop can probably get the stuff.

> And Bobbi, how DO you make xray images with common household  
> equipment?

Ooooh, you had to ask! First, let me state for the record that it is \*not\* a safe thing to do. I am providing the information solely for the satisfaction of intellectual curiosity and take no responsibility nor accept any liability for any hurt, damage, injury or harm caused by application of this information, either now or at any future time. Substantial shielding \*is\* required for safety, contest void where prohibited by law, etc. etc. Caveat Roentgen, okay?

What it takes is a type 01A vacuum tube, a high-voltage low-current AC source (we used a school physics-lab handheld Oudin coil but I'd bet a J. C. Whitney Model T Ford replacement spark coil would do), enough aluminium foil to cover most of the glass bulb of the tube, a few scraps of wire and something to hold the tube by the base, leaving the pins and foil-covered bulb free (the sort of stands and clamps chemists use for their glassworks are ideal).

Clamp the tube a foot or more above the bench. Crumple the foil around the end of the envelope, wrap some bare wire around it and ground the other end of the wire. If neither side of the HV secondary of the coil is grounded, pick one and ground it. The other side of the secondary goes to any \*single\* pin at the base of the tube--it seems to work better if you only use one, but doesn't much matter which one; nor does the filament have to be lit or even intact! For this trick, the "elements" used are the entire mass of stuff inside and the "getter" (a shiny metallic--magnesium?) on the inside surface of the envelope. We're capacitively coupling to the getter with the foil covering.

Hook up the primary of the coil to a suitable source of power. Place single-sheet Polaroid film (or your choice--photography is not something I know much about and my night vision is poor; Polaroid is all done in decent light!) on the work surface under the tube, lay the object to radiographed on top of it, SHIELD THE SETUP PROPERLY, and turn on the coil.

The process is akin to what photography folks call a contact print. It's not fast; when we radiographed a fanned out feeler gauge (even the thicker sizes were distressingly see-through! It was one of the last shots), the exposure time was in excess of fifteen minutes. Shut it off, start the film developing for the standard minute, then peel and see how it came out. With luck, you'll have a radiograph! If not, try a longer exposure. That's all there is to it.

The hard and expensive part of the process is getting enough lead foil to not be cooking yourself, spouse, the kids, pets, neighbors, etc. This \*is\* dangerous and I wouldn't do it now; but at the time I was a high shcool student and thought I'd live forever. (My lab partner went on to do super-duper physics of some sort as a career; I hope he wears his dosimeter these days! We were ultimately shut down by the physics instructor....)

So now you know how it's done--no bobbie pins(tm) required, and it could be that Ford spark coils and 01As are only "common household items" at my house these days. :)

73,  
--Bobbi

(They never did let us build a small reactor under the bleachers in the gym, hmpf! It worked out okay for Fermi...!)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:00:36 1995

Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 22:07:08 -0600

Message-Id: <fd4\_9502221018@satlink.oau.org>

From: Russ.Leblanc%225@satlink.oau.org (Russ Leblanc)

Subject: Re: Hamification (Orlando)

APPP> The three day "Hamification" Amateur Radio and Computer show in APPP> Orlando, Florida was more of a two day event since many vendors were APPP> gone on Sunday (and the tailgate ares was deserted). Boatanchors were APPP> around but not much in the military arena, mostly civilian and in every APPP> condition from good to junque. Prices seemd high (Hallicrafters SX-99 APPP> for \$100 and went up from there).

I was going to the tailgate at that "hamfest", but they wanted \*\$15\* for the tailgate, plus another \$8 on top of that (even if you only tailgated). So it doesn't surprise me if the prices were kind of high. I promptly returned home along my SX100, 3001 and H600 t/o's, a SP600JX, Halli FPM300, and some misc stuff. At least I got a little excercise that day.

If anyone local to Orlando is looking for one of the above, contact me.  
I prefer to sell local.

Russ, 654-1866

russ.leblanc%225@satlink.oau.org

--- Blue Wave/QWK v2.12  
--- FidoPCB v1.4 [ff232/a]

--

|Fidonet: Russ Leblanc 1:363/225  
|Internet: Russ.Leblanc%225@satlink.oau.org  
|  
| Standard disclaimer: The views of this user are strictly his own.  
| From C.F.Satlink +1-407-240-7781 (ANSI or Vt-100 \_required\_).

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 02:39:01 1995

Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 00:09:01 -0600

Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950223010834.19793C-100000@access3.digex.net>  
From: Tony Stalls <rstalls@access.digex.net>  
Subject: Hammerite Paint

I recalled an earlier discussion of painting and somebody's mentioning "Hammerite" (Hunting Specialized Products Co.) as a home-brew alternative to powder coat. Well, I tried it today and it produces the best finish right out of the spray can I've come across.

It gives a hammertone-like finish reminiscent of the old Bud mini-boxes. The only advice I can give is to follow the instructions on the can. Also don't spray it on too heavily. The only thing that gives the fact that mine was home paint job is one little run.

73,

Tony  
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 04:30:31 1995  
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 01:53:08 -0600  
Message-Id: <8A40513.0004010F7A.uuout@freddy.supernet.ab.ca>  
From: shaun.merrigan@freddy.supernet.ab.ca (SHAUN MERRIGAN)  
Subject: MEASUREMENT ENGINEERING

Does anyone know anything about a company called "Measurement Engineering" of Toronto, Ontario (Canada)? I have a signal generator made by them Model SG-1 (covers from 140 KC to 41 MCS 3 tubes 6SJ7, 6J5, 6X5). I am curious about the history of this company.

Thanks

Shaun P. Merrigan  
shaun.merrigan@freddy.supernet.ab.ca  
merrigan@nyquist.ee.ualberta.ca

2nd Year EE/University of Alberta  
"Resistance is Futile,  
Conductance is 1/Futile  
Susceptance is dangerous  
Admittance is out of the question"

\* RM 1.3 01775 \* Where ever Yugo, I go.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 00:52:44 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 22:05:55 -0600  
Message-Id: <fd1\_9502221018@satlink.oau.org>  
From: Russ.Leblanc%225@satlink.oau.org (Russ Leblanc)  
Subject: Re: Noise Blanker Circuit

Al> in fact I used about 10 ft of that  
Al> coiled-center-conductor coax for the delay line.  
Al> Now, I'm wondering how to translate this into the high impedance world  
Al> of my vintage tube circuitry? Outside of step down/up transformers,  
Al> does anybody have any ideas for a delay line that will operate at 455  
Al> khz in a high impedance circuit? Lumped constant transmission line  
Al> segments, mebbe?

Have you considered the delay lines used in video circuits? I recall devices in the tens of nanoseconds range properly terminated in its characteristic Z (around 200-300 ohms) should do for your application.  
\*Much\* smaller packaging than using rolled-up coax.

These delay line bandwidth's are well above the required 455kHz BW. I've used silicon versions of this circuit in high-res video circuits and converting it to hollow state should be pretty straightforward.

Russ

--- FidoPCB v1.4 [ff232/a]  
--  
|Fidonet: Russ Leblanc 1:363/225  
|Internet: Russ.Leblanc%225@satlink.oau.org  
|  
| Standard disclaimer: The views of this user are strictly his own.  
| From C.F.Satlink +1-407-240-7781 (ANSI or Vt-100 \_required\_).

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:22:33 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 10:47:49 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502221647-AA14010@unlinfo2.unl.edu>  
From: djw@unlinfo.unl.edu (Daniel Wright)  
Subject: Pretty rigs II

I haven't seen much, if any traffic for the last two days. I don't know whether the list is broke or I need to send a "set" message. Anyhoo...I thought I'd post this follow-up and see if anyone gets it. If I hear that someone received this the I'll send a reset message to the listproc.....

In regard to the nice-looking, malfunctioning, Ranger I.....

The seller and I have worked out a settlement. I will keep the rig and fix it. The seller will send along a copy of the electrical tests that were made and some promised spare tubes. I also will receive a partial refund of the purchase price to cover any parts that I might need to buy to fix the rig.

I think this is VERY fair and shows that the seller is interested in doing the right thing. I appreciate this very,very much.

Soooooo....hang onto 'yer hats,folks. I'm gonna need some help/advice and if I can still get this list at my site,I'll be a buggin' you good people for some good knowledge on the fix-up of the Ranger....Thanks!!!!!!

73 de Dan -- WA0JRD ..

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:28:08 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 08:25:18 -0600  
Message-Id: <2B82B7656B@s1.xetron.com>  
From: "Jack Giehl" <JACKG@s1.xetron.com>  
Subject: R-390A ID tags

Dear BA enthusiasts:

A request was made for a replacement identifier tag for an R-390A. Beware that the four holes for the tags vary in location from one manufacturer to the next. I have a Collins and EAC junker R-390A. The tag hole locations and tag plate sizes are different.

Jack

73,

=====

Jack, WB8BFS  
jackg@xetron.com Loveland, Ohio (near Cincinnati)  
"Peak the grid, dip the plate, and keep the fire in the wire."  
=====

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 00:45:11 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 21:52:04 -0600  
Message-Id: <54699@w5ddl.aara.org>  
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org  
Subject: R-390A Users, Info Wanted

Reply to: n5off%w5ddl.aara.org@usl.edu

Thanks to all who have contributed R-390A info. We have data on 70 rigs from 12 contracts. The lowest serial number seen was 7, and the highest in a given contract was 6140. Still especially looking for data on rigs from, Dittmore-Freimuth, Remington, and Clavier contracts, but all additional info welcome.

As I mentioned in earlier posts, I am compiling a survey of R-390A's owned by hams who frequent the packet and Internet boards. The object of the game is to try and ascertain how many contracts were let for manufacture, and how many were made.

If you wish to participate in the census and you own one or more R-390A's, please go take a peek at it (them) and then reply to me with this information:

- 1) maker (EAC, Motorola, etc)
- 2) order number (63-PH-54 for ex)
- 3) serial number of the frame (front tag)
- 4) any unusual features (tags, stamps, frequency shield, etc)

Thanks,

de tom n5off%w5ddl.aara.org@usl.edu Internet  
n5off@k5arh.la.usa packet

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:02:05 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 12:04:54 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502221805.AA20674@emssr1>  
From: meh@cbsms1.cb.att.com (m.e.hartwell)  
Subject: RCA plug

Hello Dave KC7HPT

If the rca plug is with the big power cord coming from the speaker/power supply, then it is the speaker lead. The HW101 and other Heathkit rigs had the same arrangement. There is also a rca receptical for control of a linear such as the sb200 but it wouldn't be coming from the speaker cabinet.

Marty kd8bj

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:28:52 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 07:33:31 -0600  
Message-Id: <9502221329.AA20353@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>  
From: owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov (James C. Owen)  
Subject: SB102

Att:Dave KC7HPT

The RCA connector in the power cable to the SB102 is most likely a Normally open relay contact for control of the relay in a linear amplifier such as the SB200. Just don't use it. As for the ground screw. It's always good to ground any equipment, however I ran my SB100 located on the second floor for many years without grounding with no problems. If you can ground to something do it, if not, don't.

The DX-60B and HR-10B are fair buys at \$100.00 if in good shape and you can live with CW and AM only, and of course crystal control if a VFO is not included. Why don't you buy the SB102 if for sale, cost should be about \$200.00 then you would have SSB and VFO control.

73 Jim K4CGY

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 00:38:56 1995

Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 21:52:51 -0600

Message-Id: <2F4BCCAE@smtp.eid.af.mil>

From: "Johnston, Les" <johnston@serverg.eid.af.mil>

Subject: Subscribe

johnston@serverg.eid.af.mil

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 00:44:27 1995

Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 21:53:36 -0600

Message-Id: <2F4BBE2E@MSMGATE.TRACOR.COM>

From: "Kasprzyk, Emil" <EFK@eng2.tracor.com>

Subject: RE: Tech/General question

If you have the "old" technician license, where you took a 5 w.p.m. code test and the general theory exam and have a copy of your original technician license, then you just need a 13 w.p.m. code test, i.e. element 1B.

If you took the newer technician license, i.e. elements 2 and 3A written, plus element 1A 5 w.p.m. code, then you need to take element 1B (13 w.p.m. code) and element 3B.

Then for advanced you just need element 4A theory.

Emil KC5IZ

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>From: boatanchors

To: Multiple recipients of list

Subject: Tech/General question

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 1995 10:22PM

I thought I used to know the answer to this question, but now I'm not so sure.

To go from a Tech(not a no code) license to General, all you have to do is pass  
a 13 WPM code test, right? The Tech/General written exam is the same and hence  
not necessary since you took it when you got your Tech. Similarly, to go from a  
General to an Advanced, you have to pass a more technical written test, but a  
code test is not required. Clear me up on this if I'm wrong.

-Jim

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 00:50:06 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 22:00:39 -0600  
Message-Id: <2F4BAD2C@sharkgate.sandiegoca.attgis.com>  
From: "Kenan, Larry" <llk@sandshark.sandiegoca.ATTGIS.COM>  
Subject: RE: Tech/General question

> From: jcreid  
> Date: Tuesday, February 21, 1995 10:22PM  
>  
> I thought I used to know the answer to this question, but now I'm not so sure.  
> To go from a Tech(not a no code) license to General, all you have to do is pass  
> a 13 WPM code test, right? The Tech/General written exam is the same and hence  
> not necessary since you took it when you got your Tech. Similarly, to go from a  
> General to an Advanced, you have to pass a more technical written test, but a  
> code test is not required. Clear me up on this if I'm wrong.  
>

There is one additional technical written test section in the General Class requirements that is not in the Tech.

Passing the 13 wpm code test eliminates the need to pass a 5 wpm test so you can go from Nocode Tech to General without taking a 5 wpm code test. Passing 20 wpm code test eliminates the need to take either of the slower code tests.

You are correct in that to upgrade from General to Advanced there is one more

technical written test.

Larry Kenan - KD6CKR

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:00:18 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 21:36:58 -0600  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.05.950222135.C20639-b100000@booz.bah.com>  
From: k1zat@bah.com  
Subject: Re: Tech/General question

Jim,

Now that I'm home, the book says this.

> On Tue, 21 Feb 1995 jcreid@ccgate.hac.com wrote:  
> > To go from a Tech(not a no code) license to General, all you have to do  
> >is pass a 13 WPM code test, right? The Tech/General written exam is the  
> >same and hence not necessary since you took it when you got your Tech.

Technician license issued before 3/21/87 is also known as  
a Tech Plus. You have credit (or grandfathered) for elements 1A,  
2, 3A and 3B. You only need element 1B (13 wpm) for the General.

Technician license issued on or after 3/21/87 BUT before  
2/14/91 is also known as a Tech Plus. You have credit  
for 1A, 2 and 3A. You need elements 1B (13 wpm) and 3B  
to become a General.

Technician license, also known as a codeless ["no code"]  
Tech, issued on or after 2/14/91. You have credit for  
elements 2 and 3A. You need elements 1A for a Plus,  
1B and 3B for a General.

So, the key is when the Tech was issued and is it a "prove-able".  
Acceptable proof to support your claim probably would the original  
license that shows one of the dates outlined or a CSCE from that period  
or maybe a letter of confirmation from Gettysburg.

Hope that explains it.

jd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:18:39 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 11:33:39 -0600

Message-ID: <Pine.3.05.9502221208.A8099-b100000@booz.bah.com>  
From: k1zat@bah.com  
Subject: Re: Tech/General question

Jim --

On Tue, 21 Feb 1995 jcreid@ccgate.hac.com wrote:

> To go from a Tech(not a no code) license to General, all you have to do  
>is pass a 13 WPM code test, right? The Tech/General written exam is the  
>same and hence not necessary since you took it when you got your Tech.

Depends on when that Tech "plus" was issued. It was sometime before Mar 87, then yes that's true; you're considered a "grandfathered" tech holding credit for General written. If it was after that date (I dont have the exact dates here at work, but will look them up at home) but before the date of the advent of the no-code Tech (sometime in 91) then not true. You'll have to pass the 13 and element 3B to become a General as the Tech written became element 3A and the General became 3B. In either case, you have the burden of proof, i.e., you must prove to the examiners that you are a grandfathered tech in order to have the credit at test time.

>Similarly, to go from a General to an Advanced, you have to pass a more technical written test, but a code test is not required. Clear me up on >this if I'm wrong.

As a General going to Advanced you only have to pass the written, element 4A (Extra is 4B).

jd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Feb 22 12:35:37 1995  
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 08:45:07 -0600  
Message-ID: <9502221424.AA07826@uvs1.orl.mmc.com>  
From: padgett@tccslr.dnet.mmc.com (A. Padgett Peterson, P.E. Information Security)  
Subject: RE: Testing 803s?

(Sorry to respond to the list but unless the address is in the message, my VAX mailer "loses" it 8\*)

>I'd like to be able to test 803 tubes on my Hickok 533A tube tester.

Just bought an 553A-DM myself and it came with the schematic - might be able to figure it out but would need the specifications on the 803. Does say that can only handle up to 25W output.

BTW I need to figure out how or if a 0B3 VR and 50A1 (really a constant current

regulater) can be checked. Some "0"s were listed on a separate sheet but not the OB3.

While on the subject, new 1L6s seem to be just about gone so will have to turn to the used/pulled market. I notice that a high proportion of the failed ones I have found were from GE (statistical sample is still too small to be meaningful). Is there any correlation here? Were some manufacturers better than others or is the 1L6 pentagrid converter such an oddball that there is no correlation? Have yet to see a T/O with an original working Zenith 1L6.

Warmly,  
Padgett

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Feb 22 12:49:16 1995

Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 09:56:22 -0600

Message-Id: <199502221554.KAA17965@Shiva.COM>

From: John Shriver <jas@shiva.com>

Subject: Re: Testing 803s?

The first thing to consider before testing a transmitting tube in a receiving-tube tube tester is whether the tester has enough muscle in the filament transformer to light the filament. Typical testers can only muster 3 to 4 amps (up to 12.6V), for instance the TV-7 can only muster 3 amps. Hopefully you have the 533A's manual...

Second, you will certainly have to test the 803 at a low plate voltage, and with fairly heavy bias so it doesn't draw more current than is available on the B+ supply of the tester.

Of course, you will also need a known good 803 to calibrate the tester for the tube.

The TV-7 can test the VR tubes. Think it puts B+ on them through a large resistor, and essentially runs the meter as a voltmeter.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 01:34:40 1995

Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 22:51:52 -0600

Message-Id: <950221215029\_71333.144\_DHQ89-3@CompuServe.COM>

From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>

Subject: Testing New Purchases...

We should probably develop something like a "New Purchase Checkout Checklist" using the expertise of this group. I hear of too many buyers who mail-order a used boatanchor, unpack it and plug it in. As we all know, this is inviting disaster.

Here's a start--all I had time for. Can you add to it or change it to make

it better?

1. Open box, unpack radio, check for obvious physical damage.
2. Read the manual. If manual is unavailable, put radio back into box until manual is available.
3. Remove the chassis from the cabinet. Check the chassis for obvious physical damage and loose parts.
4. Short out large caps to avoid unpleasant surprises while poking around.
5. Test all tubes. Make sure that the correct type of tube is used in each socket or that the substitute is a proper substitute.
6. Check fuses. Do values match manual parts list?
7. Check line cord for aging or damage. If replaced, is it wired correctly? Is it fused correctly? Grounded correctly?
8. Test all controls for proper motion.
9. Check for obvious age-related or abuse-related damage including burnt components, leaking caps and so forth.
10. If transmitter, do ohm meter test of cabinet interlocks.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Feb 23 00:27:46 1995

Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 21:44:41 -0600

Message-Id: <9502230044.AA09993@kali>

From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>

Subject: WA6VVL article repros!

I have admired Dave Ishmael's articles and workmanship for a long time. His articles in Electric Radio show that he's a real craftsman. I just got the February issue today (hmm, just renewed and upped to First Class; snafu or am I always going to get it late because I'm on the East coast?)... On page 55 is an ad for a 29-article compendium by Dave, called Vintage Anthology, Vol I. \$16.95 incl shipping and I intend to order one! Should be great (contains updated/unpublished articles too).

DWI Engineering  
P O Box 3611  
Costa Mesa, CA 92528-3611

No affiliation with Dave. I just like his homebrew stuff so much I'd buy it! <grin>

I notice that Barry has added more Collins reprints to the list. I got my dad the 75A-4 compendium last year and he seemed to enjoy it.

How's that McElroy book?

--Andy